

REMARKS

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Casapulla U.S. Patent Application 2003/0071185.

Responsive to this, claim 1 is amended and further limitations are added in the amended claim 1 to distinguish from the disclosure by Casapulla. The added limitations are not seen in the disclosure by Casapulla so that the amended claim should be in condition for allowance. The added limitations include that an engaging plate extends from a top thereof so as to be connected to the bicycle rack, and the polygonal wall includes two holes defined through two sides thereof and the two holes are oriented in two different directions. In the embodiment as disclosed in Fig. 1 of the present application and the newly added claim 2, the two holes (231) are perpendicular to each other and the bolts (24) extend through the two holes (231) and are threadedly connected to the threaded holes (11) in the extension tube (10) so as to securely connect the polygonal wall (23) to the extension tube (10). These limitations are not disclosed by Casapulla.

In the disclosure by Casapulla, the collar 12 is an independent member which is movably mounted to the drawbar 16 and only one allen screw 32 is used to extend through one side of the collar and contact against the side wall of the drawbar. Besides, obviously, the bicycle rack is not to be connected to the collar 12, as disclosed in Fig. 1 of Casapulla, there is a bal hitch 24 which is to be connected to a

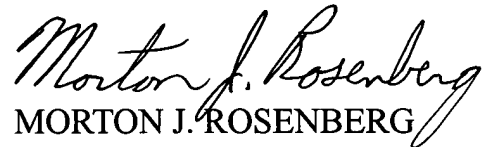
bicycle rack. When a bicycle rack is connected to the ball hitch 24 of Capapulla, the shaking of the bicycle rack that the present application concerns will not apply onto the allen screw 32 at all because the collar and the flag holder are nothing to do with the bicycle rack. In other words, the objective of the claimed device is to obtain a firm structure for securing the connection member to the extension bar, and the bicycle rack is connected to the engaging plate on the top of the connection member. By the two bolts in two different directions to connect the polygonal wall to the extension bar, the shaking between the connection member and the extension bar is reduced. On the contrary, the collar is simply a flag pole which is light in weight and requires a simple securing device to hold it on the drawbar. Besides, the collar is independent from the ball hitch and the bicycle rack so that the flag holder does not anticipate the claimed assembly.

Accordingly, the amended claim 1 and the new claim 2 make the claimed invention more distinguishably patentable over the prior arts cited by the Examiner. It is believed that, the amended claim 1 has disclosed a structure whose construction and function are quite different from and patentably distinguishable over the cited prior arts. Therefore, it is believed that, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) should be removed, and the amended claim 1 should be allowable. It is further submitted the amended claim 2 should be allowable as they are dependent upon the amended claim 1 which is believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, he is urged to contact Applicant's attorney at the exchange listed below.

This Amendment was prepared by Applicant, and is being submitted without substantive change by the undersigned Attorney.

Respectfully submitted,


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